

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 217160

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DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:JSROY/HETTHAYER:CED

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S/S - PSHANKLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217160

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS FOR ACTING CHIEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SCHLESINGER, JAMES), CH, US

SUBJECT: SCHLESINGER VISIT: USLO ROLE

FOR ACTING CHIEF

REF: PEKING 1669

1. EA/PRCM PROVIDED SCHLESINGER AND CERTAIN MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY (LUTTWAK, WHITSON, PERLE, AND WATTENBERG) WITH ROUTINE BRIEFING AUGUST 31, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION OF USLO FUNCTIONS AND CAPABILITIES. WE EXPRESSED USLO WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE BRIEFING OR ASSIST IN OTHER APPROPRIATE WAYS. YOU MAY WISH, ON PARTY'S ARRIVAL, TO INVITE MEMBERS TO INFORMAL PRIVATE COCKTAIL-DISCUSSION. ALTERNATIVELY, WE CAN PASS SUCH INVITATION TO LUTTWAK BEFORE PARTY'S DEPARTURE SEPTEMBER 4.

2- WE DO NOT KNOW IF SCHLESINGER WILL ASK USLO
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PAGE 02 STATE 217160

REPRESENTATIVE TO ACCOMPANY HIM AT MEETINGS WITH PRC

LEADERS. YOU SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO DO SO BUT SHOULD NOT PRESS SUBJECT. YOU MAY, OF COURSE, ATTEND BANQUETS OR OTHER FUNCTIONS IF INVITED TO DO SO.

3. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO YOUR BEING PRESENT AT THE AIRPORT TO GREET THE SCHLESINGER PARTY ON ARRIVAL UNLESS USLO COUNSELOR WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE IN TERMS OF THE LEVEL OF CHINESE REPRESENTATION. WE ARE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED THAT YOUR PRESENCE COULD BE MISINTERPRETED AS LENDING OFFICIAL AURA TO VISIT, BUT WE RECOGNIZE THAT LOCAL PRACTICE MAY DICTATE YOUR BEING THERE. IN ANY EVENT, WE WOULD PREFER THAT USLO PRESENCE AT AIRPORT BE KEPT AS SMALL AND UNOBTRUSIVE AS POSSIBLE IN VIEW OF THE VISIT'S CONTROVERSIAL ASPECTS.

4. AS YOU WILL HAVE NOTED FROM SEPTTEL, SCHLESINGER GROUP IS DIVIDED INTO MAIN PARTY AND ACCOMPANYING PRESS MEMBERS. LUTTWAK IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER PRESS WILL BE INCLUDED IN ALL ACTIVITIES AND MAY ASK USLO FOR ASSISTANCE IN LOOKING AFTER THE PRESS WHILE THE GROUP IS IN PEKING.

ROBINSON

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